

I am concerned about the decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. I believe this is an overt measure that is daring the FCC to do something about it. But because Sinclair is so GIANT they believe they are above the regulations and do not need to follow their obligation to serve the public interest. Their decision is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Local media should not be forced to show one-sided footage by a huge organization like Sinclair. Our local media should be able to determine what the local interests are and air shows that benefit the local audience.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.